processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages. Under the scheme, financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid upto 50% of the project cost in general areas and upto 75% of the project cost in special category states subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 crore or the cost of approved facilities, whichever is lower, has been envisaged for all implementing agencies. Under the Infrastructure Development Scheme, it is envisaged to give a grant of upto Rs. 10 crores for the Cold Ghain, upto Rs. 50 crores for setting up of Mega Food Parks, and upto Rs. 15 crores for modernization of abattoirs.

Further, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries under its Plan Scheme for Technology upgradation/modernization/establishment of Food Processing Industries, extends financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil Works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs for setting up/modernization/technology upgradation of food processing industries. In the Eleventh Plan, it has also been proposed to continue assistance in the form of grant to private sector/ public sector organisations through schemes for setting up of Food Testing Labs, Implementation of Quality Systems such as Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9000, Good Hygiene Practices (GHP) and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Promotion of Research and Development, Capacity Building and Human Resource Development and other promotional activities with higher levels of assistance.

Food processing units in Jharkhand

4001. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) how many food processing units have been set up in Jharkharld under both the Government and the private sectors during the last three years, district-wise and food-item-wise, with the names of the food items that are processed;

(b) whether farmers get belter prices of their products, on account of FPO; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRISUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs @ 25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and Technical Civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to a maximum of Rs. 75 lakhs in difficult areas for setting up/modernization/technology upgradation of food processing industries. Food Processing Industries are both in organized and unorganized sectors and as such data on food processing units in the country, including that of Jharkhand, is not centrally maintained. However, during the period from 2005-06 to 2007-08, seven applications claiming grant for setting up/expansion/modernization of Food Processing Industries in Jharkhand have been received in the Ministry. These units have been set up in Gumla, Ranchi, H^zaribagh, Kokar, Jamshedpur, Saraikela, Kharsawa districts of Jharkhand engaged in fruits and vegetables processing, dairy processing, processing of organic food products, etc.

(b) and (c) Under the Fruit Products Order, 1955 fruits processing units are required to take licence for setting up their units. The setting up of fruit processing units enable higher value addition, enhancement of shelf life and reduction in wastage of farm produce. This in turn helps the farmers to earn better and realise more remunerative prices for their produce. The Government has, therefore, been encouraging setting up of food processing units in the country through provision of financial assistance for setting up/modernisation/technology upgradation of food processing units, setting up cold chain and storage facilities for horticultural and other products in the country.

The Ministry has taken several initiatives in the Eleventh Plan for the promotion of food processing industries. It proposes to implement a revamped Scheme for Infrastructure Development, in the Eleventh Plan which envisages providing financial assistance for setting up of thirty Mega Food Parks in the country during Eleventh Five Year Plan period. The scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market and the processing industry so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimization of wastages and improving farmers' income. Mega Food Park envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural—processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The primary objective of the scheme is to facilitate establishment of an integrated value chain, with processing at the core and supported by requisite forward and backward linkages. Under the scheme, financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid upto 50% of the project cost in general areas and upto 75% of the project cost in special category states subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 crore or the cost of approved facilities, whichever is lower, has been envisaged for all implementing agencies. Under the Infrastructure Development Scheme, it is also envisaged to give a grant of upto Rs. 15 crores for modernization of abattoirs, and upto Rs. 10 crores for the Cold Chain.

It has also been proposed to continue assistance in the form of grant to private sector/ public sector organisations through schemes for setting up of Food Testing Labs, Implementation of quality Systems such as hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9000, promotion of Research and Development, capacity building and Human Resource Development and other promotional activities such as organization of workshops, seminars and conferences with higher levels of assistance.

Wastage of fruits and vegetabls

4002. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foodgrains worth Rs. 16,500 crores roughly 10 per cent of the foodgrains produced, is lost due to bad harvesting timing;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 30 per cent of all fruits and vegetables produced, roughly worth Rs. 13,600 crores and Rs. 14,000 crores, respectively go waste due to mismanagement and lack of storage facilities;

(c) if so, what remedial measures Government proposes to take to prevent this huge wastage of foodgrains, fruits, vegetables, etc.; and